## NEWS AND NOTES OF PLAYS AND PLAYERS

## The Best of Griffith in "Broken Blossoms"? view is a line or two saying that the music was "refreshing" or "gatchy."

By Virginia Tracy

At last! This fervent exclamation to the Chinaman. He hides his little ness of inspiration, and to please not has risen during the ages to quite goddess in his loft, which he transa fuller heart. Lately we have sterifized air and settings à la Ballin world have we lost our Griffith?" And he can understand only as a "daughter paragement under which light music f so, mightn't we indeed "weep, weep, of his taking up with a dirty Chink" and tear our hair" over the monstrous requires him to avenge his family and it are too strenuously engaged in out-Margain? Earnest picturies have run racial honor, and this costs all three pacing each other to talk about their to his every new offering, their hands lives. It is in that temple which the work. dutching their palpitating hearts— father has smashed to bits that the It was not easy to make Mr. Jerome of us earnest picturites, anyway. Chinaman arranges in seemliness the Kern talk. "Who cares about the who have excitable dispositions!-long- broken body of his little goddess and composer anyway?" he said. "He's the composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss a part of composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss and composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss and composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss and composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss and composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is the utility that others the season has fallen limp, Miss and composer anyway: ne said. He acting formity of choruses is t cize, appraise or withhold, but once flowers. After due prayer he seeks his own death at the foot of her couch, be
own death at the foot of her couch, be
own death at the foot of her couch, be
own death at the foot of her couch, be
own death at the foot of her couch, be
often picked with haste and hung with forming to the crowd style. It works fits no rule. Two seasons ago in

Own death at the foot of her couch, be
often picked with haste and hung with forming to the crowd style. It works fits no rule. Two seasons ago in

on the continent, where he will finish simply to salute the captain of own death at the foot of her couch, be
That concertinity has come for the police can make good their

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And when the good their specific concertinity has come for the police can make good their specific concertinity has come for the police can make good their specific concertinity has come for the police can make good their specific concertinity has come for the police can make good their specific concertinity has come for the police can make good their specific concertinity has come for the police can make good their specific concerting the police can mak hour when it strikes. We abductor, now safe and far as the girl had not followed Griffith's new ad- is out of our civilized life. But we see, enture three minutes before we knew once more in China, that the priest that what we were adventuring into still strikes the sacred bell, and going was a new epoch in pictures. For the east and going west along the misty day after "Broken Blossoms" was ex- River of Soule, the ships still pass hibited the screen was at least five each other in the night. Hereafter, in years ahead of where it had been the a better world than this-

condition so acounts for the poverty us like a sacrament. and monotony of our scenarios. To be Perhaps this is because everything score as many as seven different musi-

feature; nor can whole famncoln was assassinated, The picture's

gainst a background of dim, dense fith uses. has stolen upon us unawares.

But when the Chinese priest has presses the mood in which "Broken struck the sacred bell and his nephew Blossoms" leaves us: "We ugly mormust seek his fortune in the new world, but hopes also to carry to ita oung barbarians the ancient message Jerome Kern peaceful contemplation has made his pious farewells, all the splendor of color dies away; his ship sails down a river of as misty spiritual suggestion as the River of Souls itself, until, going west and passing other ghost ships going east, it disappears into the ocean within the London slums.

sinted from the vilest of her father's music repeated everywhere for a No Higher, Seals Two Weeks in Advance Smoking

forms into a temple with all the best his stock affords; feeds her, nurses gay and artful music is taken for her, bathes her wounds, wraps her in granted in the course of a season's embroidered silk, decks her with procession of musical comedies. A few Chinese headdresses of flowers and,

heaven has come to the child. So in are not very distinctly remembered the temple loft these two humble and names, no matter how pleasant their gentle souls, without harm in them, recollections of "Going Up" or "Oh, escape a while to a meek happiness. Boy" or "The Riviera Girl' are. Then the father's discovery of what voices are raised to combat the dis-

Now, is it not a singular thing that so from the technical a story of torture, murder and suicide, situations. If it were analyzed it into an actor if you aren't shaped for good for them, but that they are too into standpoint of course, since it was true enlivened only by a prizefight—and a might narrow itself down to a smaller it. That is why the tradition that you good for it. Stardom is deceptive; it dimensions an agreeably surprising ful Irvin S., will deliver the address baker Theatre, Chicago, after which he at all, but also from the standpoint prizefight, mind you, where the wrong number than that. Anyway, there are have to be seasoned before on the stage seems like so much more than it is. In amount of color and tone and perspect of the evening. Whether he will speak will start for a summe of dramatic intention. The technical man wins!—should have the effect of a limited number of musical figures you can make yourself look as if you the end it does not count so much live. It is a satisfaction to find mere of operations or lecture tours, or eat Pacific Coast, end; the end of putting over a picture sweetness and as softly fading into up again it doesn't necessarily mean without regard to any stereotyped reg- nothingness when its time comes? Why plagiarism. I don't deny that popular ulations in subject or construction; does this heavyweight of deadly ex- effects have been got by ragging old above all, in length. The programme plosives strike us as something frail war-horses of the classics, but when picture-detestable phrase!-must be and fine, of no more bulk than a wreath that has been done the intention has just five reels. If the subject is too of wood smoke? Innumerable pictures usually been admitted. On the whole, ong, cut off its head; if too short, have hauled us through every known however, men like Friml and Jacobi pad it with footage! No other single orgy of pain; yet this one remains with and Hirsch have an amazing fertility

sure, "special features" of ten reels may be thus transmuted by poetry cal themes for a single song. may be specially produced if and here, with no sordidness or squalor belstered by immense battles or prop- shirked, is certainly the mood of the be that we all hail from 'Tinpan Alagands or by being historical or taken poetic. Griffith and his Bitzer have ley.' Now there are a few natural frm the Bible or because they give seen to it that the haunted and haunt- melodists among us, like Irving Berlin exhibitions of swimming. But no spe- ing magic of the old river side shall and George M. Cohan, who have great cial feature has dared to produce a snare our senses with its brown smoke- talent but no training-but most of us mere intimate story about human be- stained mystery in a setting and a are pretty hard working musicians which continues so long as it has photography so creative that it lets with years of study behind us. The loose on us at once the whole charm simplicity of a popular song and the has said it. This has long been the of London's mellowness. We have never smoothness of a successful score are prayer of our heart, and in "Broken seen such a capture of atmosphere deceptive. Blossoms"-adapted from "The Chink as this, calling up in its few sets the workmanship to get it over. Now, I'm and the Child" in Burke's "Limehouse whole quaint, rich, grim, story soaked not asking for an academic standing-Nights"-this is exactly what Griffith suggestiveness by which the lower that might be a good deal more of a Thames holds our imagination in an hindrance than a help-but there is a With a cast of six characters, only immemorial net. In this beauty, from good deal of unnecessary condescension hree of whom are more than sketches, which we never escape, every element of interpretive beauty is combined order pieces, of course. A manager by an unflagging artistic vigilance, so will call in a man and ask him to write that where visual beauty must not be music to order, but that should forced it is the more reinforced by not detract from the fact that a

of the two most exacting parts is so season. We dare not let up in our efwoven within the picture, repeating in fort to produce something new. Comits apparent monotone its myriad retragedy pure and simple—exquisitely that it seems murderous to tear it out flections of variety and suggestion, people who are continually invoking has taken his own time to saturate his and praise it; even the girl's fearfully mind with the story, and then to saturate the story with his own vision of it. Conceived and projected in a mood large a part of all this exquisite ex-Jealously honorable, it has made no pressiveness comes from the rigidity, tinkling. It was, above all, written for Jeslously honorable, it has made no toncessions whatever. It has the settles accomplishment of an artist who has exacted from himself nothing but the scant and meagre movements, of the scant tinking. It was, above any tinking its time and generation, and a much simpler time and generation than this one. The people for whom Sullivan one. The people for whom Sullivan one. has exacted from himself nothing but perfection.

The first nevelty made us start wildly. The huge expanse of screen, which Griffith does not break by any device.

Compare their inhibited, mouselike motions with the beautiful free sweep of the boy's arm with which, when all is lost, he strikes his own deathblow, and see what a story of release and once to the Savoy to hear the strikes his own for local and once to the Savoy to hear the strikes his own for local and once to the Savoy to hear the strikes his own deathblow, and see what a story of release and once to the Savoy to hear the strikes his own deathblow, and see what a story of release. Griffith does not break by any device that tells! See the effect of using for D'Oyly Carte pieces. Then they went of picture frame or slate, dawned upon the Oriental temple in the loft the home and talked about them for the ts in deep rose. Theoretically, we is the Oriental temple in the brief the bank that the property is ame radiance of color which we had in China, thus setting it off from the we write music are a good deal more than the brief that the brief the property is a same radiance of color which we had in China, thus setting it off from the we write music are a good deal more than the brief that the br indeed, the eye quails before the brown slums like fairyland, and then, sophisticated and complex. They've chromo blows and bashes that may now assail it in injudicious hands; but therein, making the slums unreal and it's hard to get a reaction from there was no resisting this field of there was no resisting this field of fairyland the reality. So that when, them. I think it's a good deal harder rosy palpitating light, which seemed even in death, these children come job to write the music for the Ziegto be drawing us through it into the home to their real fairyland again, we feld Follies than the Sullivan operetdawn. And so, indeed, it was; it "faded feel all must be well. From end to tas. I could undertake to write music

blue, irradiated whenever the sun The picture offers, however, anoth- fair job of it, but nothing would in-These shades of rose and blue and brance and orange and bronze are the only colors ceived. Its horrors are not shown for phisticated people who are not unacused, but there is more of the Orient their own sake, but for the sweetness quainted with the best. They are peo in them than in a hundred solidly bufft Chicago in a hundred solidly enduring in their midst; the tender ple who go to hear grand opera and built Chinese streets, swarming with and lowly virtue that is ridden down cichestral music, and who are continuwild animals and foreigners, to show by the black brute beasts of prejudice ally on the keenest lookout for new tow much they cost. The shadings and cruelty remains unsullied and unsever wabble and hop nor show an sufficient of strange prismatic zigzags, which might be called in Maeterlinck's darking to a sufficient of strange prismatic zigzags, which might be called in Maeterlinck's darking to a sufficient of sufficient to suffici occasionally spitting red and green in phrase, "The Treasure of the Humble," that is destined to go out, if only beyour face, as the professedly colored we feel for its living persistence, and cause it is fundamentally offensive and pictures do, and the scenes change there arises in us an immense desire uncivilized. Syncopation is so an with a melting smoothness, in which to behave, while yet we may, as well integral a part of light music that its flashes" have at last wholly disap- as possible; to kill in ourselves the peared; the dim blue, or later, the rich least inflection of Battling Burrows A real feeling for what is graceful and brown, simply deepens up like mist and to bring ourselves as near as may from the far horders of the screen, be to the high decency of the Chink blotting out what we are not now and the Child. There is a line in meant to see, or enhancing by its "Roderick Hudson" which has always massing cloudbanks the close-up, which seemed to us the truest salutation to fine and human art, and it best ex-

By Rebecca Drucker

The most fifth-rate composer of vasiness. And we are back again to "serious" music is entitled to a dream our own world of brown and gray of immortality that is denied the composer for musical comedy. He has no Here lives Battling Burrows, a Cock- cloak of reverence to shelter him, no COLUMBIA key prizefighter who vents all his appeal to the court of posterity if presstrength on beating his little daugh- ent audiences should fail him in appreer, a fair and delicate drudge wor- ciation. Indeed, he is not even codchipped at a distance like something dled by the present. He gets excellent royalties from sheet music sales, if he is successful, and can hear his

the music was "refreshing" or "catchy," and he is lucky if he gets off without being told that it was "reminiscent." He is merely asked to have a very high

take himself too seriously. Accordingly, an amazing amount of careful to treat her always as a little of Friml, Hirsch, Kern, Jacobi and girl, teaches her what it is to smile - Hein, but to the vast majority they falls, and the young men who make

of musical ideas. I have seen Jacobi

about light music. There are made-to-Lillian Gish and Richard Barthelmess music is written in the course of each

the music of Sullivan as the forever us in to China, a China of pale bronze, end this is the only alleviation Grif- of the sort Sullivan wrote, and with a feeling that I should make a pretty

high-spirited and humorous underlie

Jerome Kern intended to be a pianist, and began his musical studies at the tender age of five.. He began writing songs when he left school, and this led him into the employ of T. B. Harms, a music publisher. He demona young poet and philosopher who tals, what beautiful creatures we are!" strated songs at department stores and to vaudeville and musical comedy people. It smashed his ambitions to be a pianist, and he began learning the wholly different art of the popu-Has His Say lar songs. Charles Frohman was among the first to recognize his talent, and for ten years he scored all Mr. Frohman's domestic musical pieces.

AMUSEMENTS

"The Home of Burlesque de Laze,"-T HERE FOR ALL SUMMER! "Burlesque at its best,"-Evening Sun.

Peek-a-boo

## on to a swift limbo of forgetfulness. 6 You Are Old, Father William-

By Ralph Block

should be. Much wailing to the con- hood as poetry, can't do as welltrary on the part of the grandfathers | The chorus, which with pleasant

The curriculum for the stage has a kind of last dogged stand of old peoardor, dull the edge of her wistfulimportance of stardom they have given comedian; Conrad Nagel, from "Forchanged much these late days. The ple who selfishly want to keep everyold as Juliet's mother to play Juliet his name in fire before he was thirty for all artists, always exposed more mellowness and experience will suball lesser drama the tide drifts pleas- standing. No reason exists why actors,

toward the naïveté—sometimes even whole, it is a good school to supply the and rare talent. Miss Alice Brady, Under the personal supervision of scripts of "The Bird of Paradies," "The Descripts of the Paradies," "The Description of the Descript the gaucheries—of sheer youngness the facility that the touted stock comwho became a star without a great
Gene Buck, twenty-five of the unRose of the Rancho," "The Masquethan to have to be prodded and tempted pany does not always give. In the deal of effort, hasn't a shade of that by the sideshow ballyhooing of milk chorus there is no escape of the need simplicity. The mantle of her station bathing and Oriental poodles. There for grace, for being supple and seduc- she wears with a little bit too much

though it is understood she will have her. charm quite her own in her evident will not to let any knowledge slip that Lambs to Gambol

mand danglingly in the firmament, has hand, the habitual gesture, the man- sure in her performance of the deli-Mr. Kern grew a little white around come to be for the most part a cliche, ner cast to the type, is the proof of cate vampire who almost seduced the breath and shepherded back into their ready for presentation in America by the mouth, but he exercised a Much too much is made everywhere of good acting. So many stock actors elderly statesman that Mr. Arlise was fold there is still a long programme the end of next season. Tully's abmagnificent restraint. However, the the technique of acting, as a great deal rise to the topmost step of mediocrity playing. She came to the part with to unfold itself like a good dinner, sence will necessarily curtail his acremark moved him to talk fluently more than is necessary is said about and fail to make the brief gap beyond. an experience in stock that might have (Which raises the question, Do dinthe technique of playwriting. Acting It is true that the easy practice of given her the background for the rôles ners?) What we are trying to convey first part of next season, although his member," he said, "hearing that is actually quite an instinctive thing; starring young women, who in some of corrosion, even if years had not yet is that there is going to be plenty of current successes, "Keep literary people have only sixty in the end it is much as it is in the cases do know how to act, has some- endowed her with understanding of so many different things that folks and "The Masquerader" will continue plots with which to work, and that beginning. You do it well or you don't, thing wrong about it. It is not that them. Now, cast by the wise Belasco, won't leave feeling full of soup and on tour. Guy Bates Post in "The there are only thirty-four dramatic and all of Casar's men can't turn you this elevation to the peerage is too in a pastel part in "Daddies," she puts hungry for pic.

in what room you sit before the glass. quietude and restraint. It will be in- 77th Division Club House will, we hope, Miss Helen Hayes will be no more a teresting to note how shrewd Mr. Bel- be kept as a surprise. And a Cobbia star next season that she is this, asco can be in picking other parts for surprise always does.

Miss Eileen Huban is not half the own reward to the public. Sometimes as well. Henry E. Dixie, than whom a actress now she was two seasons ago. it is a burden to have to follow stage cleverer monologist has still to be Stardom has seemed to cool her Irish people just because by the specious heard; Walter Lawrence, the singing There is a deceptive importance audiences the habit of watching them. ever After," and yards more, or less egoistic misconceptions. Miss side to its proper level. After all, shape the old Astor Library for the Constance Binney, who plays co-equally Herod was one of the real wise men 77th Division clubhouse.

shorn innocents will disport in gay rader," "Keep Her Smiling." "Omar Of all these young women who adorn for the record standing high kick, with in all likelihood be "The Bird of Paraest lesson that comes out of the uni- the boards now, when for so many two other stunts still kept a mystery, is dise," and it will be the first time

Captain Bill Harrigan, with Charles all the recognition then of her stature. Youth as youth sheerly carries its Clark and T. Baldy Sloan will comede,

Richard Walton Tully

To Produce in London For the 77th Richard Walton Tully sailed for

abandon, tripping the light fantastic the Tentmaker" and "The Flame," all in a breath of chiffon and a dusting of of which he expects to produce shortly

AMUSEMENTS

AMUSEMENTS

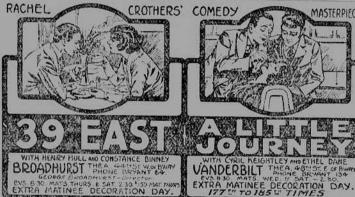
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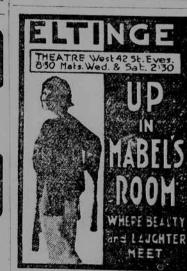
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